

## ABSTRACT

The present invention provides improved well cementing compositions for use in cold environment, where the circulating temperature of the cement is typically  
5 within the range of 5 to 20°C. The improved well cementing compositions are essentially comprised of an aqueous fluid, a hydraulic cement binder and a set-accelerating admixture comprising an alkali or alkaline earth metal nitrate and an alkali or alkaline earth metal nitrite.